

# News Release Virginia Repertory Theatre

Contact: Liz Nance Director of Communications Virginia Repertory Theatre Inance@virginiarep.org (804) 389-3390 November 8, 2019

# Virginia Repertory Theatre Announces the Company of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*

Music by Richard Rodgers Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II Book by Douglas Carter Beane Original Book by Oscar Hammerstein II

Richmond, VA -- Virginia Repertory Theatre announces the opening of Rodgers and
Hammerstein's *Cinderella* on Friday, November 29, 2019 at the November
Theatre/Arenstein Stage, 114 West Broad Street. The show will run through Sunday, January 5, 2020. One Preview performance will be on Wednesday, November 27, 2019.

Before the stroke of midnight, share the magic of fairy godmothers, pumpkin carriages, and glass slippers with every generation of your family at the romantic fairytale, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. Enjoy all the beloved tunes, like *Ten Minutes Ago* and *In My Own Little Corner*, in this charming and hilarious new production that dazzled Broadway audiences in 2013.

Virginia Rep is thrilled to welcome **Quynh-My Luu** to Richmond for her Virginia Rep debut as Ella. Luu recently appeared as the Acrobat in *Matilda: The Musical* at Olney Theatre Center and

Rapunzel in *Into the Woods* at Ford's Theatre. She holds a BA in Musical Theatre from James Madison University. Also new to the Virginia Rep stage, **Edward L. Simon** joins the company as Prince Topher. Regional credits for Simon include *The Bridges of Madison County* at Speakeasy Stage Company and *A Christmas Carol* at Westchester Broadway Theatre. He holds a BFA from The Boston Conservatory.

Richmond favorites joining the company include **Susan Sanford** (*Atlantis*, *Sister Act*) as Madame the Wicked Stepmother and **Katrinah Carol Lewis** (*Atlantis, River Ditty*) as Marie the Fairy Godmother. **Jay O. Millman** (*West Side Story, God of Carnage*), **Havy Nguyen** (*Atlantis, Sister Act*), **Audra Honaker** (*The Game's Afoot: Holmes for the Holidays, Miracle on South Division Street*), **Durron Tyre** (*Atlantis, Sister Act*) and **Benjamin Lurye** (in his Virginia Rep debut) round out the principal cast.

Laine Satterfield will direct the production, after most recently appearing on the November Theatre stage as Judy in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Satterfield directed Virginia Rep's production of *Airline Highway* in 2017, and will direct the upcoming production of *Small Mouth Sounds*, co-produced with Cadence Theatre Company. Choreographer **Matthew Couvillon** returns to Richmond, after re-creating Jerome Robbins' original choreography for Virginia Rep's 2018 production of *West Side Story*, for which he was awarded an RTCC Award for Special Achievement in Dance. Virginia Rep Music Supervisor **Anthony Smith** will provide musical direction, after recently musical directing *The Wiz* and *Atlantis*.

**Brian Barker** (*A Christmas Story; Saturday, Sunday, Monday*) returns to Virginia Rep as Scenic Designer; Jeanne Nugent (RTCC Award Winner for *The Wiz, Mr. Popper's Penguins*) will Costume Design; Virginia Rep Master Electrician **BJ Wilkinson** (*Tuck Everlasting, Gentleman's Guide...*) will Lighting Design; and Virginia Rep Audio Visual Supervisor **Derek Dumais** (*Tuck Everlasting, Gentleman's Guide...*) will Sound Design.

The full creative team and cast list is below.

## **Direction & Design**

Direction Musical Direction Choreography Scenic Design Laine Satterfield Anthony Smith Matthew Couvillon Brian Barker

Costume Design	Jeanne Nugent
Lighting Design	BJ Wilkinson
Sound Design	Derek Dumais
Assistant Direction	Kelsey Schneider
Assistant Choreography	Kate Belleman
Production Stage Management	Jocelyn A. Thompson*
Assistant Stage Management	Luke Robinson*

#### <u>Cast</u>

Ella	Quynh-My Luu*
Prince Topher	Edward L. Simon
Madame	Susan Sanford*
Marie	Katrinah Carol Lewis
Sebastian	Jay O. Millman
Gabrielle	Havy Nguyen
Charlotte	Audra Honaker
Lord Pinkleton	Benjamin Lurye*
Jean-Michel/Ensemble	Durron Tyre
Ensemble	Mitchell Ashe, John Matthew Flemming,
	Lindsay Benson Garrett, Alia Bisharat Glidden,
	Danny Hammond, Mallory Keene, Grant Paylor*,
	Ariel Richter, Keyah Robinson, Caleb Wade
Youth Ensemble	Elizabeth Rose Cobb, Bella Cox,
	Madeline Doggett, Terrance Easter,
	Zach Kenney, Keyara Robinson
Swings	Sharaia Hughes, Guy Liskey

\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the U.S.A.

# **Ticket Information**

Box Office: 804-282-2620 www.virginiarep.org Full Price Tickets: \$36 - \$63 Discounted Group Rates and Rush tickets available.

U-Tix for college and high school students \$15 are available by phone or in person on the day of show only. Valid Student ID required.

#### **Performance Schedule**

Evening performances at 7:00 p.m. on select Wednesdays and every Thursday and Friday Evening performances at 8:00 p.m. every Saturday Matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. on select Wednesdays and Saturdays and every Sunday Matinee performances at 3:00 p.m. on select Saturdays

#### Accessibility Programs

## **Audio Described Performances**

In collaboration with Virginia Voice, Virginia Rep is pleased to offer Audio Described performances, in which actions, expressions and gestures are described during gaps between dialogue throughout the performance for patrons with low vision or blindness. In addition to live audio description during performances, patrons are also invited to participate in a tactile tour before the performance. The Audio Described performance for *Cinderella* will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 4, 2020.

#### Induction Loop

The Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre is equipped with a state-of the-art induction loop hearing system that is compatible with all telecoil-equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants. A handheld receiver and headphone system is also available free of charge for anyone who is hearing impaired.

#### **Community Tickets Grant**

Virginia Rep is thrilled to offer a **free** Community Tickets Grant for nonprofit organizations. We encourage all organizations who have a demonstrated need for complimentary tickets to fill out a short application on our website: bit.ly/CommunityTix

## **Sensory Friendly Performances**

Virginia Rep offers sensory friendly performances specifically for patrons with Autism and other sensory or social disabilities. During these select performances, changes will be made in lighting, sound, seating arrangements, and length of performance to create a more welcoming environment for this audience. A Sensory Friendly performance will be offered at 10:30 a.m. on

Tuesday, December 10, 2019. Please see the website for more details: http://va-rep.org/sensory\_friendly.html

#### Parking

Valet parking is available for \$8 at all performances and free self-parking is available for patrons within blocks of the theatre. Valet is complimentary for patrons who dine at Max's on Broad or Tarrant's Cafe before the show. Valet is no longer located in front of the theatre, and has been moved less than one block away to Jefferson Street.

#### <u>Press</u>

Press Kits will be available at <u>http://va-rep.org/press.html</u> Pass code accessible Hi Res photos available to the media. username = press password = HiRes121

#### About Virginia Repertory Theatre

Virginia Repertory Theatre is a regional professional theatre in Richmond, Virginia. With a budget of \$5.5 million, four distinct venues, an educational touring arm, and an annual audience over 530,000, Virginia Rep is one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Virginia Rep stages four seasons annually: the Signature Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, Theatre Gym Season in partnership with Cadence Theatre Company, Virginia Rep's Children's Season at Willow Lawn, and the Hanover Tavern Season.

#### Season Sponsors

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